

Serial No. 10/643,596 filed 8/19/2003
Amendment dated December 15, 2006
Response to Office Action of June 15, 2006

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Amendments to the Claims

Listing of Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-22 (cancelled)

23. (Currently Amended) A method ~~for reusing an assay~~, comprising the steps of:

- (a) conducting a first assay, said first assay comprising the steps, in any order, of:
 - (i) a first hybridization of a target first nucleic acid to ~~probe~~ nucleic acid ~~located on an assay format~~ affixed to a support, and
 - (ii) hybridization of a labeled first dendrimer to said ~~target first~~ nucleic acid, wherein said ~~target first~~ nucleic acid comprises a first capture sequence which hybridizes with a complementary nucleic acid sequence of said labeled first dendrimer;
- (b) stripping said labeled first dendrimer from said ~~target first~~ nucleic acid; and,
- (c) conducting a second assay on said ~~assay format~~ support, said second assay comprising the steps, in any order, of:
 - (i) ~~a second~~ hybridization of ~~target~~ a second nucleic acid to ~~probe~~ nucleic acid ~~on the same assay format~~ affixed to said support used for said first assay; and,
 - (ii) hybridization of a labeled second dendrimer to ~~the target~~ said second nucleic acid of said second assay, wherein said ~~target second~~ nucleic acid of said second assay comprises a second capture sequence for hybridization to said labeled second dendrimer, said second capture sequence being a nucleic acid

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sequence which is different from the nucleic acid sequence of said first capture sequence.

24. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 23, wherein (a) signal is detected from said labeled first dendrimer comprises a label for producing a detectable signal during said first assay; (b) wherein said first nucleic acid remains on said support during said second assay; (c) wherein signal is detected from said labeled second dendrimer during said second assay; and (d) wherein signal is not detected from said first nucleic acid during said second assay.
25. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 23, ~~wherein said second dendrimer comprises a label for producing a detectable signal~~ wherein signal is detected in said second assay, said signal being from said labeled second dendrimer, and not from said first nucleic acid or said second nucleic acid.
26. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 24, wherein ~~said label is a fluorescent~~ labeled first dendrimer comprises fluorescent label.
27. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 25, wherein ~~said label is a fluorescent~~ labeled second dendrimer comprises a fluorescent label.
28. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 24, ~~further comprising the step of detecting said signal of said label of said first dendrimer before said stripping of said dendrimer from said target nucleic acid~~ 23, wherein signal from said labeled first dendrimer is detected prior to said conducting said second assay.
29. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 25, further comprising the step of

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detecting ~~said signal of said label of~~ from said labeled first second dendrimer prior to said conducting said second assay.

30. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 24, ~~wherein said stripping of said first dendrimer is followed by a detection of any of said label on said assay format to verify that none of said label of said first dendrimer can be detected on said assay format~~ further comprising the step of verifying that said labeled first dendrimer is not detectable on said support after said stripping of said labeled first dendrimer and before said conducting said second assay.
31. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 23, wherein said first assay format is and said second assay are assays of a blot.
32. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 23, wherein said assay format is first assay and said second assay are assays of a microarray.
33. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 23, wherein at least one of said first and second assays comprises single dual channel detection such that signals from two different nucleic acid sequences are detected using a single assay.
34. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 23, wherein at least one of said first and second assays comprises dual multiple channel detection using at least three channels, such that signals from at least three different nucleic acid sequences are detected using a single assay.
35. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 23, further comprising the step of conducting a third assay on said ~~format support~~ using a target third nucleic acid comprising

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- a third capture sequence, said third capture sequence comprising a nucleic acid sequence which is different from the nucleic acid sequences of both said first capture sequence and said second capture sequence.
36. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 23, ~~further comprising the step of conducting a third assay on said format using a target nucleic acid comprising a third capture sequence, said third capture sequence comprising a nucleic acid sequence which is different from the nucleic acid sequences of both said first capture sequence and said second capture sequence wherein said first nucleic acid remains on said support during said second assay.~~
37. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 23, further comprising the step of conducting further assays on said format support using target nucleic acids comprising capture sequences which are different from the capture sequences used in any of the prior assays on said ~~assay format~~ support.
38. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 23, ~~wherein said capture sequence comprises 31 base pairs wherein said first nucleic acid remains on said support during said second assay, and wherein signal is not detected from said first nucleic acid during said second assay.~~
39. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 23, wherein at least one of said first and second assays is used for RNA expression analysis.